

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 14, with the following amended paragraph:

In some embodiments, the ethylenically unsaturated monomer may also be selected to possess certain properties. For example, in some embodiments, the hydrophilic nature of the ethylenically unsaturated monomer may be controlled to aid in the deposition of the binder onto the web. For instance, it may be desirable to utilize an ethylenically unsaturated monomer that is relatively hydrophilic (e.g., water solubility of ~~[[less]]~~ greater than about 10 grams per 100 grams of water at 25°C) so that the binder can more readily dissolve in the liquid suspension of fibers.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 10, line 22, with the following amended paragraph:

Further, if desired, the ethylenically unsaturated monomer may also be relatively hydrophobic (e.g., a water solubility of ~~greater~~ less than about 10 grams per 100 grams of water at 25°C). Examples of some suitable hydrophobic unsaturated monomers include, but are not limited to, saturated and unsaturated alkyl (meth)acrylates having 1 to 24 carbon atoms in the alkyl such as methyl (meth)acrylate, allyl (meth)acrylate, isobutyl (meth)acrylate, cyclohexyl (meth)acrylate, octyl (meth)acrylate, lauryl (meth)acrylate, oleyl (meth)acrylate, behenyl (meth)acrylate and the like; hydrophobic (meth)acrylates and their derivatives such as butoxyethyl (meth)acrylate, benzyl (meth)acrylate, tetrahydrofurfuryl (meth)acrylate, ethyleneglycol di(meth)acrylate, 1,3-butyleneglycol di(meth)acrylate, diacetoneacrylamide and the like; aromatic unsaturated monomers such as styrene, chlorostyrene, vinyltoluene and the like; and vinyl esters such as vinyl acetate and the like. In one embodiment, for example, a hydrophobic acrylate monomer having the following formula can be utilized: